GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:954
ANSWERED ON:23.10.2008
TURKMENISTAN AFGHANISTAN PAKISTAN INDIA PIPELINE PROJECT
Badiga Shri Ramakrishna;Veerendra Kumar Shri M.P.

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is not inclined to push through Iran-Pakistan-India (IPI) gas pipeline project but is very keen on Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) pipeline;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is true that recently the Minister held bilateral talks with Pakistan on TAPI pipeline;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;

(e) whether China is eagerly waiting to grab IPI pipeline in view of India not showing keen interest in this pipeline project; and

(f) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS(SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a): In order to enhance country's energy security, Government is pursuing import of natural gas from Iran through IPI gas pipeline project and from Turkmenistan through TAPI gas pipeline project.

(b): Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) & (d): 10th Steering Committee Meeting(SCM) of the Project was held at Islamabad on April 23-24, 2008.During the 10th SCM, Gas Pipeline Framework Agreement was initialled by the Ministers of all the participating countries.

(e): No official communication has been received in this regard.

(f): Does not arise in view of (e) above.